

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 02466 011518Z  
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 DODE-00 L-03 CIAE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 EB-08 SS-15 SSO-00 SP-02  
/067 W

-----124115 011521Z /50

O 011354Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7841

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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: MARR, XF, LE, SY, SG  
SUBJECT: UNIFIL AIRLIFT COSTS

REF: STATE 110012

1. IN ABSENCE OF INSTRUCTIONS FROM DEPARTMENT RE FUNDING  
UNTIL FINAL DAY OF AIRLIFT, EMBASSY MADE ARRANGEMENTS WITH  
SARG BASED ON PRIOR USG AND UN EXPERIENCE AS FOLLOWS:

A. FUEL COSTS USAF AIRCRAFT: US TOOK RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL FUEL COSTS ATTENDANT  
TO AIRLIFT. THIS IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORMAL PRACTICE  
PROVIDED IN USAF FOREIGN CLEARANCE GUIDE FOR SYRIA. PER  
SECTION 7 PARA E SUBPARA 2, FUND CITE IS REQUIRED AND US  
EMBASSY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT. AF 15 IS NOT USED IN  
SYRIA. STATE 101304 DIRECTED EMBASSY TO OBTAIN SUFFICIENT  
FUEL WITH NO INDICATION THAT SPECIAL FUNDING PROCEDURES WOULD  
APPLY. SARG NORMALLY REQUIRES UN TO PAY ALL FUEL COSTS IN CASH  
PRIOR TO AIRCRAFT'S DEPARTURE. IN THIS CASE, SARG ACCEPTED US  
EMBASSY ASSURANCES THAT IT WOULD MEET ALL COSTS IN LIEU OF  
CASH PAYMENT.

B. LANDING FEES: 21ST AF MCGUIRE MESSAGE 220112Z APRIL  
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PARA 8 STATED CLEARLY THAT DEPARTMENT WOULD PROVIDE FUND  
CITE FOR "LANDING/SERVICE FEES." BASED ON THIS, EMBOFFS  
TOLD SARG AUTHORITIES USG WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH FEES.  
NEVERTHELESS, WE ARE FORMALLY REQUESTING VIA DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO MFA  
THAT THESE FEES BE FORGIVEN IN LIGHT OF INTERNATIONAL  
PRACTICE. (IT SHOULD BE REMEMBERED THAT SARG AS  
MATTER OF PRINCIPLE HAS REFUSED TO FINANCE ANY PORTION OF UN

MIDDLE EAST PEACEKEEPING OPERATION.)

C. FEES FOR CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES AIRCRAFT: AT NO TIME IN TRAFFIC RECEIVED HERE DID DEPARTMENT INDICATE CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS FUEL COSTS AND LANDING FEES. EMBASSY THEREFORE TREATED CAPITAL FLIGHTS AS INTEGRAL PART OF AIRLIFT AS INDICATED IN HQ MAC SCOTT AFB MESSAGE 212220A APRIL WHICH INCLUDED CAPITAL CHARTERS IN SAYING THAT FUNDING WOULD BE PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT OF STATE. CAPITAL AGENT HERE WAS PROVIDED ONLY 5000 POUNDS SYRIAN BY CAPITAL INTERNATIONAL TO COVER HOTEL AND PER DIEM COSTS FOR AIRCRAFT CREWS. HAD EMBASSY OFFICERS NOT SIGNED FOR FUEL AND LANDING FEES, DC-8 WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO DEPART DAMASCUS AND ENTIRE MISSION WOULD HAVE BEEN UNACCEPTABLY DELAYED.

D. VISAS: SARG GRANTED WAIVER OF VISA FEES FOR US MILITARY PERSONNEL AT REQUEST OF EMBASSY.

2. TO RENEGOTIATE ARRANGEMENTS MADE WITH SARG AT THIS POINT WOULD CAUSE SERIOUS EMBARRASSMENT TO THIS EMBASSY AND UNDERCUT OUR CREDIBILITY IN FUTURE DEALINGS WITH SARG OF THIS NATURE.

3. REQUEST FUND CITE FOR PAYMENT OF FUEL COSTS AND ALSO LANDING FEES IN CASE OUR ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN WAIVER IS UNSUCCESSFUL.  
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PELLETREAU

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COSTS, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES, MILITARY AIRLIFTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978DAMASC02466  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 110012  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** MARR, XF, LE, SY, SG, UNSC, UNIFIL  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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